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**From:** Daly, Eric  
**Sent:** Mon 5/16/2016 5:23:18 PM  
**Subject:** USEPA-NYS DEC and NYS DOH: Niagara Falls Boulevard Site/Holy Trinity Cemetery

Good Afternoon Chad:

I hope you don't mind but you asked some good questions and I wanted to respond to all.

The indoor work is the first step because GNBC is an active business and the areas of concern are within the occupied building. The specific areas are not being actively used due to NYS and EPA recommendations. Secondly, the business has been in limbo as far as utilizing these identified areas. Also, it will take time for us to set up the outside areas for staging and this was a good way to perform work simultaneously. So those were some of the reasons why the indoor actions were planned first.

We plan on performing this removal action "continuously". However, continuously doesn't mean every single week until the removal is complete. Weather permitting, EPA personnel/resource commitments, downtime due to pending sample analytical results and funding will dictate when we are at the Site and not.

October 1, 2016 is the new fiscal year. That is less than 5 months away. So, I am pretty certain the separation of funding will be seamless in regard to our site work.

I would like to refrain from using the term “Stockpiling” of material. In most removal actions, there is staging and packaging; Sampling and awaiting for pending results; Bidding out for proper transport and disposal. Radioactive waste is more challenging than most other haz material to T&D. We will also be performing screening and sampling to ensure the areas are below cleanup values prior to backfilling. These events happen in stages and some questions will have to wait to be answered until we perform some of the work. We will be temporarily staging the material in preparation for T&D. I do not have a set timeline for that at this point. We will do this in a secure and safe manner. I would like to once again stress. We are taking the material that is below the building and parking lot and relocating it to a safer distance from these public accessible areas. If there any questions regarding this plan and the NYS does not feel comfortable answering, please refer the person or agency to Mike Basile and me.

I wanted to add another public relations update. My public affairs office has been contacted by Dan Telvock (Investigative Reporter) in regard to an on-camera interview with me. EPA requested that Mr. Telvock present questions ahead of time prior to an in person interview with me when I am in Niagara County. Mike Basile is not back in Niagara County until May 27<sup>th</sup>. So if the interview happens, it won't be until after Memorial Day. We will let you know if and when the interview is scheduled. Please let us know what the status is with NYS public affairs and Mr. Telvock.

Thanks

**From:** Staniszewski, Chad (DEC) [mailto:[chad.staniszewski@dec.ny.gov](mailto:chad.staniszewski@dec.ny.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2016 10:59 AM

**To:** Daly, Eric <Daly.Eric@epa.gov>

**Subject:** RE: USEPA-NYS DEC and NYS DOH: Niagara Falls Boulevard Site/Holy Trinity Cemetery

Hi Eric,

Thanks for the update. It is always helpful and appreciated.

Two questions I hope you could answer. First, once the work under the building is complete is EPA immediately moving onto the parking lot or is the work beneath the building separate from the rest of the parking lot? If it is separate do you have an estimated timeframe for moving onto the parking lot? Second, is EPA still planning on stockpiling the excavated material behind the bowling alley (in the soon to be cleared wooded area) until next year when money is available for disposal?

**Chad Staniszewski, PE**

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**From:** Daly, Eric [<mailto:Daly.Eric@epa.gov>]

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**Subject:** USEPA-NYS DEC and NYS DOH: Niagara Falls Boulevard Site/Holy Trinity Cemetery  
**Importance:** High

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Good Evening:

I wanted to give the county and state partners an update on the two Niagara County Sites. Below are the draft bullets for both sites that I will be sending my branch next week.

### **Niagara Falls Boulevard**

I have attached a draft fact sheet for NFB. We received a verbal today to start the removal work at NFB. Below are our proposed plans for the time range **May 24, 2016 through June 10, 2016 (On-Site)**

- Mobilize at NFB on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 and start Sawdust room build, clearing and removal of above ground vegetation and gamma survey of the woods
- Similar assessment strategy to what Weston and Guardian performed at Holy Trinity Cemetery assessment
- Skid Steers with attachments for woods clearing to establish work trailer area and material staging areas
- Purchase building supplies (lumber/nails/sheetrock, etc.) to build out temporary storage room within Sawdust room.

- Excavation of soil from GNBC Office/Warehouse Areas
- Properly shut off electrical to GNBC office area and two warehouse areas
- Properly cap off plumbing services to GNBC office area and two warehouse areas.
- Possibly start demolition of front office non load bearing walls on Wednesday, May 25, 2016.
- Confirm indoor utility floor mark out specifics performed during March 2016 soil sampling.
- Plan to jackhammer front office concrete flooring on Sunday, May 29, 2016. Perform as much of the jack hammer operations in two warehouse areas on May 29<sup>th</sup> during off hours.
- Excavate and stage contaminated soil in designated staging area.
- Sample, analyze and purchase clean fill for interior pits post excavation.
- Post excavation sampling of GNBC Office/Warehouse Areas

## **Holy Trinity Cemetery**

On May 24, 2016, we will be meeting at the residence across from HTC with a sub slab radon mitigation system specialist to perform a walk through.

## **Draft Bullets**

**Holy Trinity Cemetery Site, Lewiston, New York (OSC Daly)**

The Holy Trinity Cemetery Site (Site) was referred to the EPA by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH on July 21, 2013. No other removal actions have been taken by other government or private parties prior to this request.

On March 08, 2016, OSC Daly was assigned as the lead OSC for the Site. Based on the previous EPA data, it was determined that additional gamma survey and soil sampling work was needed as well as securing the areas of concern.

On March 24, 2016, ERRD Director granted a verbal authorization for a removal action. For precautionary measures during the assessment activities, it was determined that a fence be installed around the designated area during the week of April 18, 2016.

On April 6, 2016, OSC and EPA contractor leads conducted a Site walk.

On April 12, 2016, EPA Public Affairs Official distributed the Site fact sheet to local public officials. On April 13, 2016, the Site fact sheet was hand delivered to the residential homes near the Site.

On April 18, 2016, OSC Daly, Health Physicist Nguyen, Weston (3) and Guardian (3) mobilized to Site. Data rams air monitoring and Radeco air sampling were utilized during operations. Skid steers with brush hog and forestry attachments cleared fence perimeter in Area 1 in order to conduct additional gamma survey with Ludlum 2241-2 with 44-20 NaI probe utilizing the Viper system.

April 19-26, 2016, crew continued to clear brush from Areas 2, 3, 4 and 6. Gamma survey of Area 6 completed. The majority of Area 3 has been gamma surveyed.

April 21, 2016, the fence post were set into place in Area 1. Ariel Iglesias, Paul

Giardina and Oleg Povetko visited HTC. OSC Daly also did site walk with the group at Niagara Falls Boulevard Site. Town of Lewiston representatives visited the Site and provided additional contact information to OSC.

On April 22, 2016, radon canisters were deployed at the residence in Area 5 by the radon specialist subcontractor.

On April 25, 2016, the radon canisters were picked up at the residence in Area 5. Gamma survey assessment was conducted within the home as well as the surrounding property. The perimeter fence around Area 1 was completed.

The gamma survey readings within the home and on the property exhibited background results. The preliminary radon sample results indicate that the basement of the residence has elevated radon levels. EPA will work with the resident to plan the next steps.

EPA has been coordinating with NYS, Niagara County and local representatives throughout the assessment process.

### **Niagara Falls Boulevard Site, Niagara Falls, New York (OSC Daly)**

On June 16, 2015, OSC Daly was assigned as the lead on-scene coordinator for Niagara Falls Boulevard Radiological Site.

From July 2015-August 2015, the USEPA Region 2 Removal Program conducted gamma survey, radon sampling and soil boring sampling of the interior and exterior of the property. The goal for this assessment was to determine the extent of contamination (i.e. how far does the contamination extend beyond the

contamination area of concern determined by Pre-Remedial Program), as well as, determine interior contamination impacts (i.e. are workers/patrons exposed to elevated levels of radon/thoron or loose contamination).

The week of February 29, 2016, USEPA Region 2 Removal Program conducted interior soil boring sampling of the interior of one of the buildings that exhibited elevated gamma readings. The material under the concrete flooring of the designated areas exhibited elevated readings of Ra-226 and Radium 228.

On March 18, 2016, OSC Daly submitted a draft Action Memo to management for finalization.

The weeks of April 4, 2016 and April 25, OSC Daly and Weston mobilized to the Site to oversee a property boundary survey in order to identify property owners and physical parcel boundaries at NFB.

On May 13, 2016, ERRD Director authorized verbal funding for the Site in the amount of \$600,000.

Mobilization is planned for the week of May 23, 2016.

USEPA has been coordinating with NYS, Niagara County and local representatives throughout the assessment process.

EPA will be distributing a Site Fact Sheet to the public once the Action Memo is approved and site mobilization is planned.



